

NEWS RELEASE

Alabama Department of Public Safety

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TROOPERS FOCUS ON UNSAFE DRIVING BEHAVIOR

During Fourth of July Holiday

MONTGOMERY — All available state troopers will be working to ensure safe travel during the Fourth of July holiday period, according to Col. W.M. Coppage, Department of Public Safety director. During patrols and at checkpoints, troopers will be watchful for traffic law violations, including impaired driving, speeding and failure to use safety restraints.

“Troopers anticipate heavy traffic during the Fourth. Their presence on Alabama’s roadways will help ensure the safety of all motorists, including those traveling to summer holiday destinations,” said Coppage. He urged motorists to drive with safety in mind. “It is especially important during holiday traffic to concentrate on driving defensively and carefully, using safety belts on every trip.”

Troopers plan to focus patrols on heavily traveled roadways, including interstates and popular beach and vacation routes, in conjunction with Operation C.A.R.E., Combined Accident Reduction Effort. C.A.R.E. is a cooperative effort by state police nationwide to promote traffic safety during holiday periods through enforcement and traffic safety awareness.

The Department of Public Safety estimates that 15 people may die in traffic crashes in Alabama during the 78-hour Independence Day period beginning at 6 p.m. Friday, July 2, and ending at midnight Monday, July 5. Last year there were 10 fatalities during the 78-hour Fourth of July period. Three of the crash victims were not using safety belts, and at least two of the traffic deaths were alcohol related.

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